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Soak-The-Poor 82d To Adjourn

High-Price, High-Tax Reputation Certain

Washington. — The soak-the-poor 82d Congress prepared to adjourn its high-price high-tax first session.

Ruled by Dixiecrats and reactionary Republicans, the Congress left a record of legislation encouraging high prices, protecting huge profits, and shifting almost the total higher tax burden on persons with incomes under $5,000 a year.

The AFL Labor's League for Political Education prepared a printed record of how individual members of House and Senate voted on key issues affecting the working man—wage-price controls, taxes, migrant labor, taxes, foreign economic aid.

Copies of the voting record will be available from LLPE so that local union members can check a Congressman's claim on how he voted for the working man in this session.

Entering the home stretch of their 10-month session, House and Senate scheduled quick votes of approval for the new tax law, which increases personal income taxes in the lower brackets 11.75 percent and hikes the federal sales tax on such cost-of-living items as cigarettes, gasoline and beer.

The Senate also had to vote funds for foreign economic aid. Both houses had previously passed a bill setting up Mutual Assistance Administration and the House appropriated almost $8 billion to carry out a program for a year.

President Truman signed the bill establishing the administration and appointed W. Averell Harriman as administrator.

Apparently due to be left untouched was the Defense Production Act which guarantees higher prices but no controls that would keep down the cost of living.

Administration efforts to revise the law, eliminating the Capehart amendment which forces the inclusions of all higher costs in ceiling prices, appeared doomed.

BOWLES GOES TO INDIA.—Washington.—Former Governor Chester Bowles of Connecticut, price administrator in World War II, takes his oath as ambassador to India from John Simmons (right), chief of State Department protocol, in the presence of Assistant Secretary of State George C. McGhee (center). Mr. Bowles, accompanied by his wife and 3 children, flew directly to his new post.

AFL Offers CIO Unity on Terms Satisfactory to Both Sides

Chicago.—AFL President William Green said that "a cordial invitation will be extended to the representatives of the Congress of Industrial Organizations to meet and confer in an effort to agree upon and establish organic unity within the ranks of organized labor."

He told the 11th convention of the AFL International Hod Carriers, Building and Common Laborers Union that the decision of the AFL 70th convention will be carried out.

That convention noted with regret that the CIO had suddenly broken off the labor unity talks in August 1950 and never sought to resume them since. It expressed the hope that these negotiations can be resumed soon.

Mr. Green told the Hod Carriers:

"In view of the critical world situation, the emergency national defense production program, the accumulating economic problems that face us on the home front, the spread of anti-labor legislation and the long-range importance of next year's elections, it is more imperative than ever before that the ranks of organized labor in America should be united.

"The recent convention of the American Federation of Labor faced this need realistically. The delegates voted unanimously to invite the CIO to resume negotiations with us looking toward a merger of the two organizations into a single, united labor movement.

"We issued no ultimatums.

"We made no advance conditions.

"We did not in any manner, shape or form insist upon any particular terms.

"All we asked was resumption of negotiations at which an agreement for unification could be negotiated on terms that would have to be satisfactory to both sides.

"The decision of the delegates in attendance at the 70th annual convention of the American Federation of Labor will be carried out. A cordial invitation will be extended to the representatives of the Congress of Industrial Organizations to meet and confer in an effort to agree upon and establish organic unity within the ranks of organized labor.

"I know it is the hope of the membership of the American Federation of Labor that the division within the ranks of labor will be brought to an end and the workers of the nation shall become united in one strong and indestructible labor organization.

"Labor unity is one of the fundamental principles upon which the founders of trade unionism started to erect an organized labor movement in the United States.

"Division within the ranks of organized labor serves to promote discord, division, human resentment and weakness. Unity serves to promote strength, harmony, goodwill and the development of labor's economic power as a strong and effective force in the establishment of a relationship between employers and employes.

"The economic, social and industrial interests of the workers of the nation are best served when labor is united in one strong and impressive organization.

"The question which the workers ask themselves is—shall labor continue divided, fighting and raiding organizations well established, spending per capita tax paid by the individual worker in fighting and raiding each other's organizations, or shall labor be united into one strong cooperative organization in which each individual worker acts and works with his fellow worker for the purpose of promoting their economic, social and industrial welfare?

"Which is the more effective—millions of workers united into one organization, acting and fighting together, or the same millions divided into dual conflicting organizations, wasting their money in fighting each other rather than using their money in fighting for higher wages and improved conditions of employment?

"This is the issue which organized labor in the United States must face and finally determine.

"We in the American Federation of Labor want peace. We want peace and unity in our own trade union ranks, just as we yearn for peace and friendship in the affairs of the world.

"The days ahead are certain to be difficult. No one can tell what the future holds in store. But if we remain true to our high trade-union principles and if we live up to our duties as good citizens, we cannot fail."

Urges U.S. Grant Cash Flood Aid

Washington.—AFL President William Green appealed to the Senate to provide cash grants to midwest flood victims up to 80 percent of their losses, not to exceed $20,000 per claim.

The House voted $113,440,000 to help rehabilitate persons who lost homes and possessions in last summer's flood in Kansas, Oklahoma, Missouri and Illinois. But the bill failed to provide direct indemnity payments and allocated only $5 million for the President's emergency disaster relief fund.

Mr. Green wrote Chairman Kenneth McKellar of the Senate Appropriations Committee that while the House bill providing for loans only may be sufficient in some instances "provision should also be made for outright grants to those who property has been damaged by the flood."

"The original proposals for flood relief includes authorization of indemnification of flood victims for physical loss of or damage to tangible real or personal property up to 80 per cent of the amount of such loss, provided that the amount to be paid by any one person submitting such a claim does not exceed $20,000," Mr. Green said.

Green Asks Senate to Restore Plan to Assistance Bill

"We regret very much that no such provision was retained in the resolution as passed by the House.

"The complete reliance on long term loans will have the very serious effect of mortgaging for many years to come the incomes of flood victims to the detriment of the welfare of themselves and their families."

Mr. Green said the victims of the flood are in no way responsible for it and deserve help from the congress in the form of cash grants to replace losses.

He said the members of organized labor and other organizations are doing a tremendous job in helping to relieve the suffering caused by the flood but it is far short of the financial aid needed to provide adequate relief to the thousands of destitute families.

AFL unions have raised thousands of dollars for flood relief work among union members in the flood area.

Sales Tax Goes Up Nov. 1 On Smokes, Beer and Gas

Washington.—The federal sales tax on cigarettes will rise from 7 to 8 cents a pack no Nov. 1.

This is just one of the several higher excise (sales) taxes voted on cost-of-living items by the Dixiecrat-GOP bloc in the new revenue law. The sales taxes are in addition to the higher income tax rates.

The tax bill, as agreed to by committees of the House and Senate, was to be passed finally to permit Congress to adjourn by Oct. 20 so that all new taxes would be effective Nov. 1. Here are major changes in excise rates:

Distilled spirits, increased from $9 to $10.50 a gallon.

Beer, from $8 to $9 a barrel.

Cigarettes, from 7 to 8 cents a pack. The tax on snuff, chewing and smoking tobacco, cut from 18 to 10 cents per pound.

Gasoline, from 1½ to 2 cents a gallon.

Manufacturers' tax on passenger cars and motorcycles, from 7 to 10 percent, but exempting house trailers. On trucks and buses, from 5 to 8 percent.

Diesel fuel oil taxed for the first time at 2 cents a gallon.

Some items on sporting goods list increased from 10 to 15 percent, but baseball equipment exempt from tax. Fishing rods left at 10 percent.

Mechanical pencils, pens and lighters subjected to 15 percent manufacturers' tax, new.

The tax on telegrams is cut from 25 percent to 15 percent.

Photographic equipment was cut from 25 to 20 percent, film was raised from 15 to 20 percent, but supplies used for business purposes were exempted.

NELSON M. BORTZ

Washington. — Newly-appointed chairman of 3-man Railroad and Airline Wage Board which will handle wage and salary stabilization for 1,330,000 employes in those two industries as provided by Defense Production Act of 1951.

Union Shop Elections Cost U.S. $3 Million

Washington. — Government - sponsored union shop elections cost U. S. taxpayers $3 million in 4 years.

A formal and legal end to the polls was due as soon as President Truman signed an amendment to the Taft-Hartley law wiping out the requirement.

In 4 years, more than 5,000,000 American workers—most of them AFL members—voted on whether they wanted a union shop in 44,587 different plants in every state in the union.

They voted 12 to 1 in 97 percent of the polls in favor of a union shop, which requires all workers to join the union within 30 days of taking a job.

Sen. Robert A. Taft, whose sponsored the NAM-written Taft-Hartley Act, insisted upon the provision that 51 percent of the persons employed in a bargaining unit—not just a majority of those voting—had to vote for the union shop. He theorized that union members don't want a union shop, that it is "imposed" on workers who are "prisoners" of the unions.

American union men showed how wrong Mr. Taft is.

But while the amendment would end union shop elections, it is still unsatisfactory to labor because it retains many restrictions. Before a union can negotiate a union shop, it must show that officers have signed non-communist affidavits and financial information is filed with NLRB.

The amendment still permits harassing of unions by allowing 30 percent of the employes of a plant to petition to withdraw authorization of the union shop.

It continues to prohibit a union shop in states where this union security provision is outlawed.

The Railway Labor Act union shop amendment and the union shop amendment to Taft-Hartley sponsored by the AFL Building and Construction Trades Department would eliminate deauthorization elections and remove restrictions of state laws.

ASK REPEAL

San Francisco.—The AFL 70th convention called upon Congress to repeal the Lea Act, which has deprived the American Federation of Musicians of protection of their employment and their working conditions.

The Lea Act is the only piece of legislation directed at a specific union. It forbids the Musicians from attempting to say how many members a radio station shall employ.

AFL Proud of Members In Red Feather Campaigns

SUPPORT RED FEATHER DRIVE—San Francisco.—AFL President William Green and Vice President Matthew Woll urge participation by every AFL member in local Community Chest and United Defense Fund drives in progress this autumn in the nation's major cities. The Red Feather, to the right of Mr. Woll, is symbol of campaign.

Wm. Green Emphasizes Year-Round Labor Participation

New York.—"It's a bigger Red Feather this year!"

Under that slogan, hundreds of AFL members are working for cash gifts and pledges from millions of AFL members and others for the Community Chest and United Defense Fund campaigns now in progress in American cities and towns from coast to coast.

AFL President William Green endorsed the Chest drive and the United Defense Fund, which includes the campaign for the USO, American Relief for Korea, and other war agencies.

In his letter to Chairman H. J. Heinz, 2d, of the Community Chests of America, Mr. Green said:

"I personally and officially welcome the opportunity of each year endorsing the Community Chest campaigns.

"We have watched with pride and interest the increasing participation of members of the American Federation of Labor in the year-round programs of Community Chests and Councils and their Red Feather services.

"Our prediction and hope that this year-round participation, particularly if based on labor-management cooperation, would result in more generous giving to the financial support of the Red Feather services has been fulfilled.

"As we have frequently stated, members of the American Federation of Labor are proud of our American voluntary health, welfare and recreational services, not only in the splendid work that they are doing but also because all groups in the community join together to do the job. The Red Feather services richly deserve our support. I know that once again the Community Chest campaigns can depend upon the members of the American Federation of Labor to respond generously."

Reg Kennedy, AFL staff representative to the Community Chests and Councils of America, emphasized the need for year-around AFL participation in Red Feather activities. He said in part:

"Our AFL 4-point program of education and appreciation on a year-round basis has been widely accepted and carried out throughout the country, not only by Chest and Council executives but by Red Feather service representatives and AFL officers and members as well.

"Our AFL membership has become more and more acutely aware of the benefits available to them by actively taking part in this field through membership on Chest, Council and Red Feather service boards and committees.

"The 4-point program of the AFL is simple:

"1. A year-round Labor-Management Committee.

"2. Red Feather Tours.

"3. AFL-Management-Social Work Institutes.

"4. Speakers from agencies addressing union meetings.

"We sincerely hope that through efforts in alerting and interpreting health and welfare activities to the membership of our unions, either when called upon or on their own initiative, they will help carry out successfully, in their local union and community, our 4-point program."

AFL Raises Thousands For Flood Sufferers

Washington.—AFL unions are raising thousands of dollars to help rehabilitate union members whose homes and personal possessions—in most cases the work of a lifetime—were destroyed by the Kaw River flood last summer in Kansas, Oklahoma and Missouri.

The AFL 70th convention directed AFL officials to urge upon every member of Congress the need for federal financial assistance in the huge task of rehabilitating and revitalizing farms, industries and individuals.

Meanwhile Congress acted piecemeal and niggardly on President Truman's request for financial assistance for this purpose.

The Senate passed and sent to Mr. Truman a bill increasing from $5 to $15 million the funds to repair flood-damaged highways in the area.

The House passed and sent to the Senate a bill appropriating $113,440,000 in lieu of the $400 million requested by Mr. Truman. Passed by voice vote, the bill failed to provide direct indemnity payments and allocated only $5 million for the President's emergency disaster relief fund.

Meanwhile AFL unions continued campaigns to raise funds to help stricken AFL members. The AFL Executive Council reported to the 70th convention that it gave $5,000 to the Kansas State Federation of Labor for flood relief.

The executive council of the National Federation of Post Office Clerks donated $1,000 to its Midwest Flood Relief Fund established with James Hicks, Topeka, Kans., chairman and Virgil Johnson, Topeka, secretary-treasurer. Members can send individual donations to Mr. Thompson, 1218 McVicar St., Topeka.

The International Association of Firefighters sent $1,500 to help its members in the Kansas-Missouri area.

The International Association of Machinists raised more than $13,000.

AFL News Commentator Frank Edwards, returning from the AFL 70th convention, stopped off in the flood area to make several nation-wide broadcasts which described the great and continuing need for financial assistance by the victims.

Michigan Buys New Building

Lansing, Mich.—The Michigan State Federation of Labor purchased a new headquarters at 312 N. Capitol St. and hoped to occupy it by Nov. 1.

The purchase for $18,000 was made by a committee headed by John Fitzgerald. The committee was named by the state convention and authorized to buy a site.

The building is located 1½ blocks north of the capitol and is being altered at a cost of $5,000 to $6,000.

This is one of the interesting items reported in Vol. 1, No. 1 of Michigan Federation of Labor Activities prepared by Secretary-Treasurer Robert F. Scott.

If you purchase more union label goods on buy-day—you'll have more money on pay-day.

'It's a BIGGER Red Feather This Year'

By H. J. HEINZ, II

Chairman United Red Feather Campaigns of America

New York.—It's a bigger Red Feather this year, because the agencies of the United Defense Fund will be included in local Community Chest campaigns as Red Feather services.

The United Defense Fund is a group of national agency defense services, including (a) the new USO, (b) the United Community Defense Services, and (c) a token gift of clothing and supplies for the people of Korea.

Thus one Red Feather gift this year will serve four great purposes: (1) provide for the nation's 15,000 regular Red Feather services to children, youth, the ill, the aged and the handicapped; (2) show our men and women in uniform, through the USO that the people back home are with them and for them; (3) help communities solve their own health and welfare problems, and (4) give aid to the Korean people who have suffered so cruelly.

The joint campaigns of the Community Chests and the United Defense Fund mark a significant step toward reducing the multiplicity of national appeals. In cities which support the UDF as a Red Feather service, no other appeals for those services will be made.

The bigger Red Feather means that gifts and pledges—from individuals, corporations and employee groups—will have to be bigger, too. But of this we may be sure; no one gift will reach so far, to serve so many people, so many ways.

AFL Legislative Agents Need Rank and File Help

By JOSEPH M. ROURKE

Secretary-Treasurer Connecticut Federation of Labor

(Excerpts from legislative report point up problems of AFL representatives in state capitals.)

Bridgeport, Conn.—The 1951 general assembly was presented with approximately 3,500 bills during the session just completed. Many of these bills affected labor directly and others had an indirect effect.

Generally speaking, labor received very little from this assembly. While the Senate went all out in passing a progressive labor program, the House either blocked every major change save two, or offered measures that were, at best, watered down versions of the Senate program. There is a great need either to educate the membership of the House as to labor's needs or to change the membership to include more friends of labor.

We need more and more rank and file participation in pushing the legislative program of the Connecticut Federation of Labor.

While the Legislative Agent appears for and against many bills during the session to present labor's views on a particular measure it is more effective and more convincing to have individual locals and individual members also appear and testify.

This is particularly true in the case of workmen compensation bills, unemployment compensation matters and various, welfare measures.

To this end, I strongly recommend that each local of the AFL have a Legislative Committee to whom the Legislative Agent can look for support and testimony on various bills which affect their members. By increasing local participation in the legislature, I believe that we can persuade many of the conservative members of the General Assembly of the merits of our program.

The blunt fact is that legislators are impressed by large turnouts and will listen more attentively to the merits of the program.

I cannot adequately convey to you the organizational technique of the manufacturers who oppose us.

The Manufacturers' Association and the Chamber of Commerce bring their full-time staff to the hearings, prepared with exhaustive research of why Connecticut must stand pat or go backwards.

Then representatives of the big companies such as American Hardware, Bridgeport Brass, and their kept experts deplore changes because it will hurt their company either financially or competitively. There is always a small company representative to support the big boys.

Labor takes an hour to tell its side, but management is prepared to talk all day or several days.

We must meet employers on equal terms in the legislature and more local participation is essential.

FARES OUTRUN TRANSIT WAGE

Washington.—Capital Transit Co. forced Division 689 AFL Amalgamated Street Electric Railway Employes into a 3-day strike last July to obtain 15 cents an hour general wage increase and other benefits.

The strike was page one news across the country.

Now the company wants a fare hike.

Deep in the testimony before the District of Columbia Public Utilities Commission, under cross-examination, a company spokesman admitted that fares have risen 62 percent since 1946 but that operators' wages went up only 29 percent.

Few companies, in the light of phenomenal postwar profits, can testify under oath that wages caused all of the enormous price hikes which have been made since Sen. Robert A. Taft and his NAM reactionary allies have controlled Congress.

LABOR EDITORS JOIN TRIBUTE TO LA PRENSA.—Chicago.—Top photo: Eugene Moore (left), editor The Butcher Workman of the AFL Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen and president Chicago Labor Press Club, presents a copy of his magazine containing cover and editorial protesting Dictator Peron's seizure of La Prensa, independent Argentine daily, to Dr. Alberto Gainza Paz, editor-in-exile of La Prensa, as Publisher Marshall Field, Jr., of Chicago Sun-Times watches. The Sun-Times printed editorials from The Butcher Workman and The Federation News of Chicago Federation of Labor protesting La Prensa's seizure. Bottom: Irwin E. Klass (center), editor The Federation News of Chicago Federation of Labor, listens with Donald Breed (left), Freeport, Ill., Journal Standard, and Frank Norris, Newsweek, to Dr. Alberto Gainza Paz tell how Dictator Juan Peron of Argentina seized his newspaper, La Prensa, for opposing dictatorial government.—(Chicago Daily News Photo.)

You Can Send CARE Turkeys

New York.—For the fourth consecutive year CARE, whose member agencies include the Labor League for Human Rights, official relief arm of the American Federation of Labor, is preparing a special holiday package that will make it possible for AFL membership to share their Thanksgiving and Christmas celebrations with struggling trade unionists and their families in Europe and Asia.

CARE Executive Director Paul Comly French announced the gift package will again contain a whole canned turkey and enough of the "trimmings" to make a holiday dinner for a family of 12. The price of $18.75 includes guaranteed free delivery in Austria, Belgium, Finland, France, Western Germany and Berlin, Great Britain (England, Wales, Scotland, Northern Ireland), Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Yugoslavia, Japan, Okinawa and the Philippines.

The turkeys are the famous Beltsville white breed for a maximum of meat and a minimum of bones.

Other contents of the Holiday Package include 1 lb. of bacon, 8 oz. butter, 1 lb. plum pudding, 1 lb. coffee (or 1 lb. tea for Britain), 29 oz. of peaches, 11 oz. of mustard, 1 lb. chocolate candy, 1 lb. hard candy, and 15 oz. of raisins. The turkey weighs about 7 pounds and is packed in 2 pounds of land.

Orders should be sent to the AFL Representative, CARE, 20 Broad Street, New York 5, N. Y. Delivery in time for Thanksgiving can be made on orders received by October 31, while November 20 is the deadline for Christmas delivery.

The AFL 70th convention endorsed the CARE program and urged members to make individual purchases of CARE packages for free struggling trade unionists abroad.

SPONSOR ANTI-COLONIALISM RESOLUTION.—San Francisco.—Vice President Milton P. Webster (left) and President A. Philip Randolph of Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters sponsored in AFL 70th convention several important resolutions unanimously endorsed by delegates which would abolish all vestiges of colonial imperialism in Africa, Asia and elsewhere; which condemned racism, and which favored abolition of the filibuster in the U. S. Senate and enactment of fair employment practices legislation.

Senate Dixiecrats-GOP Force Thru Soak-The-Poor Tax Bill

Washington.—The Dixiecrat and reactionary Republican senatorial conferees on the tax bill forced adoption of a harsh soak-the-poor measure which will raise personal income levies 11.75 percent more on Nov. 1.

The Senate conferees on the measure were Dixiecrats Sen. Walter F. George of Georgia, Tom Connally of Texas, and Harry F. Byrd of Virginia, and Republicans Robert A. Taft of Ohio and Eugene D. Milliken of Colorado, all millionaires.

They got enough help from several of their kind in the House group of conferees that they were able to beat down the valiant efforts of such stalwarts as Rep. Jere Cooper of Tennessee and John D. Dingell of Michigan to ease the burden on the low-income wage earner.

The conference measure now goes back to Senate and House with final approval assured. It will reach President Truman in plenty of time to sign so that the excise and other taxes, in addition to the personal income hike, will become effective Nov. 1.

Following is a comparison of individual income taxes under present law and under the compromise tax increase bill agreed upon by a Conference Committee of the Senate and the House of Representatives. Income refers to net income before personal exemptions but after deductions for gifts, interest, taxes, etc.

Married Couple—Two Dependents

Salary	Old Tax	New Tax
$3,000	$120	$133.80
4,000	320	356.80
5,000	520	579.80
8,000	1,152	1,285.00
10,000	1,592	1,777.60
15,000	2,900	3,240.00
20,000	4,464	5,004.00
25,000	6,268	7,008.00
50,000	18,884	21,092.00
100,000	51,912	56,036.00
300,000	221,504	228,276.00
500,000	402,456	411,228.00
1,000,000	857,456	871,228.00

Not only does the bill raise the individual's tax withheld from his pay envelop but it also raises the cost of living by continuing and increasing, and by adding new, sales taxes on a long list of cost-of-living items.

By contrast, the bill reduces individual income rates on persons earning $28,000 a year. At the $1 million a year income mark, the rate is 1.5 percent.

The bill also gave corporations all the breaks voted by the Senate. Higher taxes are retroactive to last April 1 instead of Jan. 1.

In addition, the Senate forced the House to hand over $600 million in excess profits to corporations. Senate conferees refused to reduce the base for computing excess profits from 85 to 75 percent. They compromised at 83 percent.

Earlier the conferees had adopted a whole set of Senate amendments to ease "hardships" on profit-swollen corporations.

The bill will raise an estimated $5.75 billion. President Truman had asked, and the AFL favored, a bill to raise $10 billion to pay costs of the Korean war and defense mobilization as we go. The House had voted $7.2 and the Senate $5.5 billion.

Almost all of the AFL recommendations for easing the tax on low income families were rejected.

FIRE FIGHTERS MEET THE CHIEF.—San Francisco.—George J. Richardson (left), secretary-treasurer, and John P. Redmond (right), president AFL International Association of Fire Fighters, chat with Edward Walsh, San Francisco fire chief, who welcomed AFL 70th convention.

McFarland Rules Out Civil Rights Test

Washington.—Sen. Ernest McFarland of Arizona, Senate Democratic leader, said "flatly no" to proposals that the Senate stay in session for a showdown over civil rights legislation.

He refused to say whether he would schedule debate on such bills when the Senate reconvenes in January.

Dixiecrats, who filibustered against the last attempt to enact fair employment practices legislation, were prepared to stage another talkathon if the Democratic leadership tries again to carry out the Democratic platform adopted in 1948 on which President Truman was elected.

The AFL 70th convention condemned the filibuster in one of a series of resolutions dealing with civil rights legislation, racism and anti-colonialism.

It adopted a resolution sponsored by United Hatters hailing the establishment of committees by local unions, central bodies, state federations and international unions to advance civil rights and improve human relations.

A series of resolutions sponsored by the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters was adopted. These:

1. Reaffirmed AFL support for fair employment practices legislation.

2. Called for changes in Senate rules that would end the filibuster, which has been the only weapon to forestall passage of civil rights legislation.

3. Condemned racism in all its varied forms as a danger to free trade unions, democracy and world peace.

4. Called for an end to colonial imperialism wherever it exists in Africa, Asia and elsewhere.

The convention said the AFL is uncompromisingly opposed to "every form and practice of colonial imperialism, whether it be the old 19th century type or the new and even more sinister and hypocritical speech of Soviet imperialism."

On racism, the convention said:

"It is the duty of all free trade unionists to fight against every manifestation of racism regardless of where it may occur or the flag behind which it hides."

From the rostrum of the 70th convention, black, yellow, brown and white men, Catholic, Jew, Protestant, Hindu and Mohammedan delivered speeches urging even greater effort to brotherhood among all men and peace between the nations of the world.

Change Wage Base Date For Building Trades

Washington.—The Construction Industry Stabilization Commission amended Regulation No. 1 changing the base date for computing wage increases from Jan. 1 to June 24, 1950.

The amendment requires the applicants for approval of wage increases to set forth the rate prevailing on June 24, 1950 (or July 1, 1950, if higher, provided that the July 1 rate was established by a collective bargaining agreement executed prior to June 24, 1950).

Thus the amendment gives formal effect to the new base date policy announced by the commission and the Wage Stabilization Board a short time ago.

At the same time the commission issued a statement with respect to wage increases in the building and construction industry which is designed to eliminate misunderstandings which had previously arisen.

Regulation No. 1 issued by the commission on July 26, 1951, authorized any contractor, without further approval, to pay wage rates not in excess of the rate for the appropriate job classification and type of construction which was actually being paid on July 26 under the terms of the local collective bargaining agreement negotiated by the customary parties in accordance with the stabilization program in the area. Regulation No. 1 also prescribed the rates which might be paid in the absence of such a collective bargaining agreement.

Under Regulation No. 1 no change can lawfully be made in the rate established under a local collective bargaining agreement without the prior approval of the Construction Commission. This prohibition is applicable to increases of 10 percent or less as well as to larger increases.

Prior to Sept. 1, 1951, the commission approved wage increases not more than 10 percent in excess of the rate for the same classifications on Jan. 15, 1950, unless there were present unusual circumstances which would have an unstabilizing effect.

The new base rate policy substitutes the rate on June 24, 1950 (or the rate on July 1, 1950, under certain circumstances) as the base.

Under this policy the commission is authorized to approve increases up to 10 percent in excess of the rates on the June 24, 1950, base date without other criteria. Before such changes may be put into effect, however, prior commission approval is required. This policy is now in effect.

In order to expedite action in cases approvable under the new base date policy, the commission has established a special panel which is authorized to act on behalf of the full commission promptly after the application is filed. In such cases the commission will not delay action in order to send out formal notices of the application.

Gompers Square Program Set

Washington.—Members of the AFL Executive Council, presidents of AFL national and international unions in Washington will share the speakers' platform at dedication of Gompers Square Oct. 27.

President Truman will deliver the dedicatory address at 11:45 a.m., EST.

Other speakers on the dedication program will be Secretary of Interior Oscar L. Chapman, who will act as master of ceremonies; Secretary of Labor Maurice Tobin and AFL President William Green.

A large number of public dignitaries and labor officials will attend the outdoor ceremonies in the triangular park on the north side of Massachusetts Ave., between 10th and 11th Streets N.W., where the heroic monument of Samuel Gompers stands. The program is scheduled to begin at 10:45 a.m., EST.

The monument to the founder and first president of the American Federation of Labor was unveiled and dedicated by President F. D. Roosevelt on Oct. 7, 1933. It is the work of Sculptor Robert Aitken and was paid for by voluntary contributions from thousands of working men and women throughout the nation.

The move to have the park where the monument stands named "Gompers Square" was initiated by the Washington Central Labor Union recently and approved and authorized by the National Park and Planning Commission.

According to the official description, the monument, in bronze and granite, shows Gompers seated; above him the altar of justice. Clasping hands across the altar are figures symbolic of Labor. Behind them stand figures of Organization and Liberty. A mother holding her child symbolizes labor's concern for the protection of the home, and a child symbolizes the need for protection of children from industrial exploitation, a cause that was close to Gompers' heart.

Carved on the face of the monument are famous messages from Gompers adjuring labor to hold fast to voluntary principles and shun compulsion and emphasizing to workers that good union men must first be good citizens.

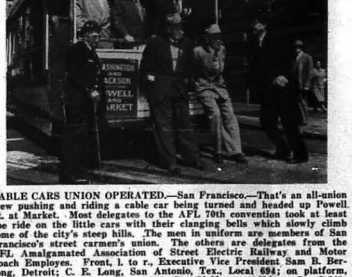
Green, Chapman, Tobin Join Truman in Oct. 27 Ceremony

3 Dedications By 3 Presidents

Washington.—President Truman will be the third in his office to participate in an AFL dedication program when Gompers Square is officially named on Oct. 27.

President Wilson dedicated the national headquarters building of the American Federation of Labor on July 4, 1916.

President Roosevelt dedicated the bronze statue to Samuel Gompers in the square on Massachusetts Ave., between 10th and 11th Sts. N.W., on Oct. 7, 1933.



CABLE CARS UNION OPERATED.—San Francisco.—That's an all-union crew pushing and riding a cable car being turned and headed up Powell St. at Market. Most delegates to the AFL 70th convention took at least one ride on the little cars with their clanging bells which slowly climb some of the city's steep hills. The men in uniform are members of San Francisco's street carmen's union. The others are delegates from the AFL Amalgamated Association of Street Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employees. Front, l. to r., Executive Vice President Sam B. Berrong, Detroit; C. E. Long, San Antonio, Tex., Local 694; on platform, l. to r., Joe Fahey, Boston Local 589; Dan McNamara, Chicago Local 241; C. K. Dorsey, Washington, D. C., Local 1098.

Bigger Union Vote Means Better Congress

(Special Correspondence)

Springfield, Ill.—A program for strengthening the progressive forces in Congress was laid down by U. S. Sen. Paul H. Douglas, a member of the AFL Teachers' Union, at the 69th annual convention of the Illinois State Federation of Labor.

Before 1,500 delegates representing 800,000 Illinois AFL members, Sen. Douglas proposed a two-fold remedy for political reaction—in the South, unionization in the growing industries; in the North, a bigger registration of union voters.

"The same group in Congress which fought repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act is also against price control, a decent tax bill, and, with some exceptions, civil rights," said Sen. Douglas.

"It is composed of the conservative Democrats of the South and the conservative Republicans of the North, mostly of the Middle West and mountain states. It dominates Congress, and prevents progressive legislation.

"In the South, as industry expands, if we can only get unionization we can get democratization. Also needed is extension of the suffrage. Abolition of the poll tax, combined with unionization, would give us more southern senators like Hill and Sparkman."

He urged greater efforts by Labor's League for Political Education to turn out a bigger registration in congressional elections, declaring Earl Quinn, secretary-treasurer of the Cook County LLPE, for a "magnificent job" in the 1950 campaign.

"Labor has two arms," said Sen. Douglas, "the left arm economic and the right arm political. It shouldn't tie either arm behind its back."

State Sen. Edward Saltiel, Chicago, and State Rep. Robert N. Allison, Pekin, both Republicans, were introduced by Federation President Reuben G. Soderstrom, as "worthy friends of labor."

Mr. Saltiel said labor should not restrict itself to one political party nor let itself be "wedded" to one party. It is prudent for labor to have friends in both parties to safeguard its interests, Sen. Saltiel added.

Minnesota AFL Carries Case To Farmers by Mail Plan

Duluth, Minn.—The annual convention of the Minnesota State Federation of Labor approved the legislative program now in effect, which already has defeated 40 reactionary legislators in two elections and is aimed at defeating a like number in the 1952 election.

The federation's public relations plan of bringing official record facts about legislators in the rural areas through a mailing system of 175,000 farmers was cited as the means by which anti-labor big business control of the Minnesota legislature can be broken.

The federation threw its support back of the AFL fight for more adequate price controls and better wage increase formulas.

Alerted by the steady increase in prices of necessities and the stagnant position of wages, the convention went on record demanding a price control plan such as proposed by President Truman. It asked the Wage Stabilization Board to change its wage increase formula from the percentage basis to dollars and cents basis. It demanded a tax program giving relief to persons with incomes under $5,000.

Resolutions adopted call for repeal of several anti-labor laws prohibiting secondary boycotts, prohibiting strikes by charitable hospital and public service employes, as well as the present labor injunction and union suability laws.

Liberalizing old age pension laws, price controls on real estate, requiring federal officials to bargain collectively with union employes, and sparing all members of organized labor to demand the union label and shop card where urged in other resolutions.

In a contest for the 2 elected positions in the federation, President Robert A. Olson of Duluth was re-elected for his seventh 2-year term over former Congressman Frank T. Starkey of St. Paul, and the veteran Secretary George W. Lawson of St. Paul was re-elected over I. J. Oakes, pipe trades union official of Minneapolis. Mr. Lawson has been secretary of the Minnesota State Federation since 1914.

NATHAN P. FEINSINGER
Washington. — New chairman of Wage Stabilization Board.

Louisiana for Labor School

Baton Rouge, La.—The 6th Annual Workers Education Institute of the Louisiana State Federation of Labor attracted the largest enrollment—426—of any institute.

Seven panels were spread over 2 days with a central theme "Improving Legislation Through Citizen Action—A Way Toward Effective Democracy."

Dr. George W. Snowden, executive director of the Louisiana State Conference for Labor Education, said that recommendations were made at the institute to encourage the AFL southern office to proceed as rapidly as possible in establishing a labor school in the south.

Tennessee and Virginia State Federations of Labor formally approved resolutions at 1951 conventions urging establishment of such a school.

Lige Williams, president Louisiana State Federation of Labor, said that the executive board of the federation would be presented with recommendations growing out of the institute at its meeting Oct. 21.

The AFL 70th Convention praised the workers' education program of the Alabama State Federation of Labor and the Mobile Central Trades Council. All labor organizations in the state have been urged to use the training program offered by the vocational industrial education service of the state department of education.

NEW BOOK ISSUED

New York.—"Goals and Strategy In Collective Bargaining," by Frederick H. Harbison and John R. Coleman (Harper Bros.), charts a long-range course that aims to strengthen modern capitalism.

ILPA Backs World Parley

Newark, N. J.—The International Labor Press of America cabled support for a new non-communist international journalists' federation and asked details of affiliation.

Newspapermen from 12 nations meeting in Paris Oct. 12-13, appointed a committee to prepare for a world conference of anti-communist journalists set tentatively for Brussels next May 4-11.

ILPA Secretary-Treasurer Lewis M. Herrmann cabled Harry Martin, president CIO American Newspaper Guild and labor information director Economic Cooperation Administration in Paris:

"ILPA-AFL representing over 500 U. S. and Canadian publications, 40th annual convention San Francisco, unanimously pledged fullest cooperation establishment of non-communist new international journalists' federation, with wholehearted approval AFL President William Green and U. S. Labor Department Secretary Maurice Tobin. Would appreciate conference details."

U. S. representatives at the Paris meeting were Mr. Martin, Pat Frayne, San Francisco, former West Coast correspondent AFL Weekly News Service; Len Graves, Pittsburgh, and Hugh Sutherland, Philadelphia.

The planning committee for the Brussels conference said it will carry out its preparatory work mainly by an exchange of correspondence in which the newspapermen in each country will be able to express their views.

The ILPA 40th convention pledged to work for establishment of a new non-communist world federation of working journalists. Mr. Green and Mr. Tobin added their endorsement in convention speeches.

BEAT CIO

Danville, Ill.—Repeating an earlier victory, the AFL United Automobile Workers trounced the CIO International Union of Electrical Workers in a National Labor Relations Board runoff election at the General Electric plant here, 380-326.

Although the UAW-AFL won the original election, a runoff was necessitated.

AFL Vindicated In WFTU Stand

(Special Correspondence)

New York.—The AFL was vindicated sooner than expected for its refusal to join the Communist-dominated World Federation of Trade Unions, David J. Dallin says in the October issue of "The American Mercury" magazine.

Unlike the CIO and British Trades Union Congress, both of which joined with Soviet Russia in setting up the WFTU, the AFL would have no part of this organization established in 1944. These other free trade union centers withdrew from WFTU in 1949 and joined the AFL in setting up the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions in 1949.

Mr. Dallin, one of the world's foremost authorities on Soviet history and politics, praises the AFL program on international affairs and the job the AFL is doing in combatting Communism.

"What has particularly aroused the enmity of the Soviet leaders is the fact that American labor since the war has not seen fit to restrict itself to merely functioning as a domestic economic movement. Rather, it has developed its own unique foreign policy, one which has in significant ways differed from that of the State Department and both political parties."

The AFL, he says, "chose to do its own thinking" about the Soviet Union during the war and "remained free of popular delusions about the Communist state."

"It is a matter of record," says the writer, "that the AFL did not curb its traditional hostility to communism, not even when the highest American quarters recommended such an uncritical approach as being the 'patriotic' thing to do."

It was the AFL which declined to join the World Federation of Trade Unions because the Soviet Union phony unions had affiliated and it was the AFL which was "the only large national labor body to oppose the new international." Writes Mr. Dallin:

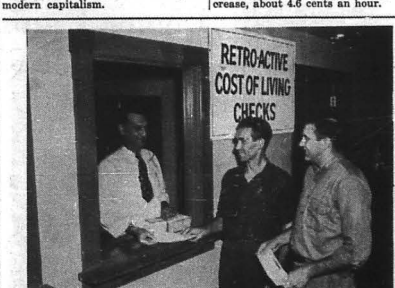
"Instead of succumbing to the clamorous ballyhoo (to join the WFTU), it quietly went about planning and setting up its own foreign service structure, and concentrated on evolving its own foreign policies."

When it became apparent that the WFTU was nothing but "a subsidiary Cominform," a split ensued between the free trade union movements and Moscow and the great majority of western trade union federations left.

"It was a moment of genuine triumph for the American Federation of Labor," writes Mr. Dallin. "Time had vindicated the courageous men who had not bowed to systematized delusion, and vindication had come sooner than expected. The AFL became the natural leader of the new International Confederation of Free Trade Unions."

POTTERS GET RAISE

East Liverpool, Ohio.—The American pottery industry and AFL Brotherhood of Operative Potters announced agreement on a 3 percent wage increase, about 4.6 cents an hour.



GET COST-OF-LIVING RAISE.—Avon Lake, O.—Paymaster Ben Chase at Fruehauf Trailer Co. hands retroactive cost-of-living checks to Eugene Martin (center), chairman bargaining committee, and James Ackerman (right), president local 925 AFL United Automobile Workers. The 1,900 employes represented by AFL union received $210,000 in retroactive cost-of-living increase.

ARCHITECTS OF PEACE.—Washington.—British Foreign Secretary Herbert Morrison (right), trade unionist, gestures as he talks to French Foreign Minister Robert Schuman (left) and U. S. Secretary of State Dean Acheson at conference which decided to work for easing of Italian peace treaty terms and speedier rearmament of Europe against Communist Russia aggression, both steps favored by AFL.

REPORTS
San Francisco. — AFL Secretary-Treasurer George Meany was seen most often during the AFL 70th convention in this characteristic pose as he submitted reports, read greetings and made announcements.

UTW Wins Say On Rent Hikes

Washington.—The National Labor Relations Board ordered an Alabama textile company to bargain with AFL United Textile Workers on the terms and conditions of rental of company-owned housing in a mill village.

The case involves the Bemis Bros. Bag Co., Talladega, Ala.

The union charged that it had requested the company to bargain with respect to housing in the mill housing development owned by the company but that management had refused. The company admitted its refusal but claimed that the subject was not a proper subject for collective bargaining.

The union requested the company to cancel rental increases that had been announced by the company through a notice to the worker-tenants of the mill village. It requested that the company bargain on all future rental of housing facilities to company employes, for whom the United Textile Workers is the collective bargaining representative.

The company refused to agree to these requests.

The board ordered the company to refrain from making any unilateral changes regarding the terms and conditions of rental without prior consultation with the union.

A man has no right to say he's 100 percent union unless he buys that way!

Seek Women On Manpower Committees

Washington. — Three recommendations by the Women's Advisory Committee on Defense Manpower aimed at getting more women on labor-management committees were approved by the National Labor-Management Manpower Policy Committee.

The Labor-Management Manpower Policy Committee agreed to have as a liaison member the vice chairman of the Women's Advisory Committee, Mrs. Mary T. Norton.

The Labor-Management Policy Committee recommended "that the Secretary of Labor suggest to labor and management the desirability of appointing qualified women to regional and area labor-management committees."

The Women's Advisory Committee felt that attention should be called to the advisability of getting qualified women on committees, since women comprise almost one-third of the country's labor force, and also constitute its largest manpower reserve.

Appointment was announced of 3 new members to the Women's Advisory Committee, former Rep. Helen Gahagan Douglas, Hollywood, Calif.; Miss Mary C. Griffith, Denver attorney who as a naval reserve officer is serving as Judge Advocate of the Denver Chapter of the Reserve Officers' Association, and is active in the Business and Professional Women's Club and other organizations; and Mrs. Alice Hogan West of Pasco, Wash., who is active as an official in the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, and in civic groups in her home community and state.

ALL HAVE JOBS

London.—In this autumn of 1951, Britain is in a state of full employment.

Only about 1 in every 100 workers is out of a job, and the majority of these are passing between jobs. There is, in fact, a general shortage of manpower and an acute shortage in certain key industries, like the mines and the railways.

What can be done, and is being done in Britain, with the cooperation of trade unions and employers' organizations, is to introduce more efficient methods and labor-saving machines, and to encourage the idea that "productivity pays." Industrial production is still rising steadily in Britain, and is now about 40-45 percent above the prewar level.

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